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SUBJECT **Border Guard Units in Ardino, Devin and
Dospat**

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The ~~barbed wire~~ ~~the~~ ~~battalion~~ are located at the eastern extremity of the city and are composed of three types of buildings, built by the Germans, with dimensions 70 meters long, 9 meters wide, 7 meters high, and are all two-story buildings. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

2. The training battalion is composed of five (5) companies, as follows: one machine gun company, one mortar company, one radiotelegraph company (signal), one engineer company, and one signal company. The battalion has at its disposal an armory and equipment storehouse.

3. The armament of the battalion is Russian carbines, mortars, Maxim Sokolev machine guns, and several old German carbines and machine guns.

4. After completion of individual basic training, the soldiers of the battalion are distributed throughout the various border units, mainly along the Bulgaro-Greek border. Sometimes, when needed, soldiers are pulled out of this training battalion and sent to the Turkish or Rumanian borders.

5. Officers of the battalion staff are as follows:

090 (Lieut. Col) KRISTEV (fnu) battalion commander

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(Capt) GOLEMANOV (fnu) deputy commander. Political Section

Senior (Lieut) VAKLEV (fnu)

Senior (Lieut) KALIN TCHONEV

(Lieut) TCHERIEV (fnu)

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6. The Podelenie "Rada" in Devin (RF 1789) [redacted] This unit is a company attached to the Devin battalion and is composed of 50 soldiers who furnish guards within the battalion area and protect such installations as warehouses, main entrance of battalion headquarters, garages, etc. In necessity this company furnishes help to the various Komandaturas in the villages of Dospat (QX 9748) and Slashten (QX 8433).

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7. The border "uchastok" (komandatura) "Strela" in Dospat [redacted]

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8. The barracks of the komandatura are located in the northern portion of the village. This unit has 40 soldiers, armed with personal weapons, such as carbines, sub-machine guns, and hand grenades. The unit maintains a warehouse for food and equipment and an armory. Supplies are brought in to the unit by truck from Devin and the various "sastavas" are furnished from it. The means of transportation between this unit and its "sastavas" is by horse-drawn carts.

9. This unit maintains one (1) guard post at headquarters, which is relieved every four (4) hours. During the hours of darkness a two-man patrol moves throughout the village and is likewise relieved every four (4) hours. The night patrol mounts its first round at 2200 hours and effects its first relief at 0200 hours. At 0600 hours this patrol goes off duty. Besides these patrols there is a permanent air raid warning post in the courtyard of the barracks which observes continuously for foreign planes. This anti-aircraft post is manned by four (4) soldiers, armed with sub-machine guns, (2), and rifles, (2). They have no listening devices and only have one (1) set of binoculars. The komandatura as a whole is always in readiness to assist anyone of its "sastavas".

10. The command personnel of the komandatura are:

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(Capt) TATKOV. (fnu) komandatura commander [redacted]

Senior (Lieut) PLACHKOV. (fnu) deputy commander, Political Section. [redacted]

(Lieut) SIDNEV. (fnu) chief of staff [redacted]

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11. In the beginning of June, 1951 an individual who was trying to escape to Greece accidentally got lost in the vicinity of Barutin (QX 9843). He was spotted by several villagers, who notified the Municipality and the Municipality immediately gathered a posse to track the man down. They were able to capture the individual and two (2) armed Communists brought him in to the komandatura in Dospat, where the soldiers put him in a room, the door of which was opened, and a guard was posted with a sub-machine gun. At 0200 hours Private [Ivan ZHELEZKOV, [redacted]] was posted on guard. He advised the prisoner that any movement whatsoever would be cause to fire. During his sleep the prisoner, who had his hands

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tied behind his back, moved, evidently trying to shift his position, with which ZHELEZKOV turned on him with his sub-machine gun and shot him through the head. The refugee was from Sofia, but his name is not known. From his clothing and his outer appearance, it would appear that he was an educated and intelligent man. He had on his an extremely nice wrist watch, which after his capture was taken by one of the unknown Communists in the posse.

12. The border "zastava Chavdar" is located in the village of Chavdar, (coordinates unknown). The "zastava" is located at the southern end of the village and about two and one-half (2½) kilometers from the border. The headquarters are in a building one-story high made of stone, whose dimensions are 15 meters long, 7 meters wide, and 5 meters high.

13. The "zastava" has approximately 40 soldiers serving in it, armed with personal weapons, besides which they have two (2) Soviet light machine guns, type "Dikterov".

14. The command personnel of this "zastava" are as follows:

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((Lieut.) BOZUKOV, (fau).] zastava commander

((Sergeant) Dosi Marinov DOSEV.] Deputy commander, Political Section

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15. The "zastava" maintains one patrol during the day composed of three (3) observers who man an observation post on the border itself, near the 10th Bulgarian Border Post. This patrol, or observation team, is equipped with carbines, sub-machine guns, and hand grenades.

16. The night patrols are assigned by numbers, the meanings of which are not known. These night patrols are composed of three (3) or four (4) pairs, depending on the ambushes to be manned. One of these pairs remains to patrol within the village, and the others take up ambush positions near the border.

17. The "zastava" does not have an armory.

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